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C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 008193

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/14/2013

TAGS: [KPAL](#) [PREL](#) [JO](#) [UNGA](#)

SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN CHALLENGE TO CREDENTIALS REPORT:
JORDAN TRYING TO "MODERATE" PALESTINIANS, BUT WILL NOT
BREAK ARAB CONSENSUS

REF: SECSTATE 339919

Classified By: DCM David M. Hale for reasons 1.5 (B) (D)

1. (C) PolCouns December 14 covered with Ali al-Ayed, Director of Foreign Minister Marwan Muasher's Private Office, ref points on a possible Palestinian challenge to Israeli credentials in the UNGA. PolCouns asked that the GOJ try to convince the PA not to bring a credentials challenge and, failing that, to support a no-action motion on the Palestinian request. Ayed said that a report from Jordan's mission to the UN indicated that the Palestinians had not yet decided to move ahead with a credentials challenge. Ayed would not comment on how Jordan might vote on a no-action motion if the PA introduced a credentials challenge.

2. (C) On December 15, Basheer Zoubi, Deputy Director of the Foreign Minister's Private Office (and the officer in charge of UN affairs for the Minister), told PolOff that while other Arab countries were prepared to sponsor the draft PA credentials challenge, Egypt and Jordan had held back, which prompted the Palestinians to withdraw their text to come up with new language. Zoubi said that Jordan would continue to try and exert a "moderating" influence in inter-Arab negotiations on the credentials challenge, although Jordan would not on its own break consensus with the Arab group.
GNEHM